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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 18, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 13 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 2.4 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 37 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 648 billion ton-miles, 1.2 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 13 totaled 451,838 cars, 6.9 percent below 1979, but 16.6 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.7 percent in the South, but down 12.7 percent in the East, and 6.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1979, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were down, although coal loadings were up 4,875 cars, or 4.2 percent; and grain showed an increase of 4,004 cars, or 13.7 percent. All of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the holiday week ended September 6 totaled 27,945 cars, down 7.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1979, and 50,670 trailers and/or containers, 4.1 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 36 weeks of the year was 1,147,645 cars, 10.6 percent lower than last year, and 2,090,871 trailers and/or containers, down 7.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/13/80:

	Loadings in Week ended September 13, 1980		Change from Corresponding Week 1979			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	33,309	I	4,004	13.7	I	4,433	15.4
Other farm products	3,927	I	645	19.7	I	1,170	42.4
Metallic ores	26,906	D	15,037	35.9	I	140	0.5
Coal	120,125	I	4,875	4.2	I	14,416	13.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,274	D	2,756	15.3	I	2,711	21.6
Nonmetallic minerals	17,175	D	476	2.7	I	2,222	14.9
Grain mill products	18,014	I	626	3.6	I	2,819	18.6
Food and kindred products	18,789	D	177	0.9	I	2,811	17.6
Primary forest products	20,217	D	856	4.1	I	4,272	26.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,861	D	3,180	26.4	I	1,727	24.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	20,580	I	145	0.7	I	2,865	16.2
Chemicals and allied products	26,411	D	2,206	7.7	I	3,236	14.0
Petroleum products	6,106	D	60	1.0	I	1,222	25.0
Stone, clay and glass products	16,867	D	2,314	12.1	I	1,857	12.4
Coke	3,687	D	2,522	40.6	I	78	2.2
Metals and products	14,127	D	3,988	22.0	I	2,202	18.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,163	D	4,197	20.6	I	4,055	33.5
Waste and scrap materials	12,283	D	1,408	10.3	I	3,123	34.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,642	D	1,671	13.6	I	1,603	17.7
All other carloads	42,127	D	2,798	6.2	I	7,252	20.8
LCL traffic	248	D	30	10.8	I	104	72.2
Total Cars Loaded	451,838	D	33,381	6.9	I	64,318	16.6
Corresponding week of 1979	485,219						

	1980	1979	%	Change
Total Cars Loaded (37 weeks)	16,040,224	16,934,986	D	5.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
36 weeks cumulative	629.5	621.3	I	1.3
Week ended September 13	18.0	18.4	D	2.4
37 weeks cumulative	647.5	639.7	I	1.2

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